

This edition of TechTALK focuses on **SYSTEM MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES** for sand media filters.

Proper system maintenance will ensure your sand media filters perform year after year. Follow these guidelines to ensure maximum performance.

- Check the Control filter every few weeks by closing the valve and cleaning the element.
- Inject Chlorine upstream of the media filters during and at the end of the season or as necessary to control algae and bacterial growth. Shock treatments may require 20 to 50 ppm. Flush the entire system after the treatment as chlorine is a dangerous chemical and all application regulations and safety rules must be observed. Contact a qualified person for further assistance.
 - The injection rate in GPH is: Strength (10% solution = 10 factor) x GPM x ppm Chlorine x 0.00006 = gallons of Chlorine per hour
 - Example: 10% solution x 40 GPM x 25 ppm Chlorine x 0.00006 = 0.6 GPH
- The sand media is usually changed every 3 to 5 years depending on how much the system operates. Close all the valves, open the top service cover and remove the cover(s) of all the side ports of the media filters. Start the pump, drain and flush all the sand from the tank. Do not use sharp tools to help remove the sand - mushrooms can be damaged. Rinse and clean the inside of the tank. Check the mushrooms and reattach the side covers. Add the correct amount of sand media, open the valves for normal operation and readjust the backflush restriction valve in the backflush manifold line.

NOTE: Use of gravel or any other material besides the recommended sand or silica media as shown in the chart below, voids the warranty and can cause damage to the underdrain and tank structure.

- Any damage to the protective coating of the filter must be repaired as soon as possible. Prior to the application of the protective paint, thoroughly clean the damaged spot with a wire brush.
- At the end of the irrigation season, initiate a backflush cycle, at a minimum of 30 psi, to ensure a clean sand bed during the off season.



WEEKLY CHECK

- BACKFLUSH CONTROLLER
- LEAKAGE
- CLEAN COMMAND FILTER

MONTHLY CHECK

Operate backflush in the system according to Δ p meter and check:

- SOLENOIDS
- DOWNSTREAM PRESSURE & DRAIN
- BACKFLUSH VALVES

SILICA SAND MEDIA DATA

MEDIA TYPE	MESH RANGE	MEAN EFFECTIVE SIZE
CRUSHED SILICA 12	80 - 130	1.1 - 1.2 MM
STANDARD SAND 6/20	100 - 140	0.9 - 1.0 MM
CRUSHED SILICA 16	155 - 200	0.6 - 0.7 MM
U.S. SILICA 80	160 - 200	0.6 - 0.7 MM
CRUSHED SILICA 20	170 - 230	0.45 - 0.5 MM

For more information, contact your local Netafim representative or Customer Service at (888) 638-2346. Thank you.